



# newhope *news*

***Lutheran Church - Agoura Hills***

April, 2021

## **Easter Touchstone**



Do you remember the Legend of the Touchstone? It's a great story to recall on Easter Sunday morning. According to that ancient legend, if you could find the touchstone on the coast of the Black Sea and hold it in your hand, everything you touched would turn to gold. You could recognize the touchstone by its warmth. The other stones would feel cold, but when you picked up the touchstone, it would turn warm in your hand.

Once a man sold everything he had and went to the coast of the Black Sea in search of the touchstone. He began immediately to walk along the shoreline picking up one stone after another in his diligent and intentional search for the touchstone. He was consumed with this dream. He wanted desperately to find this miraculous stone. However, after several days had passed, he suddenly realized that he was picking up the same stones again and again and again. So he devised a plan...pick up a stone; if it's cold, throw it into the sea. This he did for weeks and weeks.

Then one morning he went out to continue his search for the touchstone. He picked up a stone; it was cold...he threw it into the sea. Over and over and over the same thing: He picked up a stone - cold! He threw it into the sea. He picked up another stone...it turned warm in his hand, and before he realized what he was doing...he threw it into the sea!

That's a good parable for Easter, isn't it? This so easily can happen to us. We can come upon a miraculous moment like Easter...we can feel it turn warm in our hands...but then (so dulled by the routine) before we realize what we are doing...we throw it away.

Absentmindedly, mechanically, nonchalantly...we toss it aside and miss the miracle of Easter.

In the middle of pandemic with these disorienting blur of days, Easter may feel like any other day. Nothing could be farther from the truth, of course. You may need to have your eyes opened like Mary Magdalene or your hearts set ablaze like the disciples at Emmaus; but Easter is not just any other day. It is the day when Christ put a claim in the enemy territory of mortality at the empty tomb. He is, as Paul wrote, the first fruit of those who have died. He is not the first and last of resurrection, only the first. As the old song says, "Because he lives, I can face tomorrow."

I hope you will mark this special day of resurrection with worship, Holy Communion (in our parking lot at 10:30-noon on Easter), using traditional symbols (foods, Easter eggs and their meanings) and reminders that God's love has the final word.

- Our worship video is available on Saturday evening for your Easter morning worship.
- Easter Day we have Holy Communion in the parking lot at the church building, 10:30-noon. **Please RSVP** online at our website [newhopeagoura.org](http://newhopeagoura.org)

We hope you remember the gifts of Easter and the ongoing presence of the Risen Christ in your lives. These touchstones are gifts more precious than gold.

Alleluia. Christ is risen!

*Pastor Craig*




## Holy Week

**Palm Sunday Service** – March 28<sup>th</sup>  
**Maundy Thursday** at Home – April 1<sup>st</sup>  
**Good Friday Service** – April 2<sup>nd</sup>

New Hope will partner with our friends from Westlake United Methodist Church as we reflect on the seven last words of Jesus on the cross, using Scripture, music, prayer and liturgy.

**Easter Sunday** – April 4<sup>th</sup>  
In addition to our online Worship Service, we will be holding a parking lot communion event. Please RSVP on our website.

Join us  
online at [NewHopeAgoura.org](http://NewHopeAgoura.org)



## Maundy Thursday

at home

You are invited to take part in a time of worship & meditation from your home using our

- Maundy Thursday Home Worship guide

This guide features the washing of hands with Scripture, reflection, prayer and action.

*The home worship guide is available on our website.*

I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. John 13:34

## **EASTER WEEK Changes:**

Sunday (April 4th) – **No** Sunday classes held on Easter Day.

Tuesday (April 6th) – **No** Tuesday Bible Study this week.

Thursday (April 8th) – **No** Confirmation Class due to Spring Break.

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I invite you to pray as one of your Lenten disciplines these prayers for your church's renewal.

### **Prayers for Holy Week:**

#### **Monday – March 29th**

Mark 14: 3

*Jesus was in Bethany. He was at the table in the home of Simon, who had a skin disease. A woman came with a special sealed jar. It contained very expensive perfume made out of pure nard. She broke the jar open and poured the perfume on Jesus' head.*

Lord Jesus, make me brave enough to bring you my brokenness and my adoration.

#### **Tuesday – March 30th**

John 12:47

*"I don't judge a person who hears my words but does not obey them. I didn't come to judge the world. I came to save the world.*

Lord, we give you thanks for the wisdom to hear and obey God's word.

#### **Wednesday – March 31st**

John 13: 33

*"My children, I will be with you only a little longer."*

Lord, help us to count our days and lead them wisely, drawing close to you.

#### **Maundy Thursday – April 1st**

John 13:34

*"I give you a new command. Love one another. You must love one another, just as I have loved you. If you love one another, everyone will know you are my disciples."*

Lord Jesus, help me love others like you do.

#### **Good Friday – April 2nd**

John 19: 26-27

*Jesus saw his mother there. He also saw the disciple he loved standing nearby. Jesus said to his mother, "Dear woman, here is your son." He said to the disciple, "Here is your mother."*

Lord Jesus, give me strength to sustain faithful love even on my hardest days.

## **Holy Saturday – April 3rd**

John 12: 24

*Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only one seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds.*

Lord Jesus, help me to trust you even when I cannot possibly understand.

## **Easter – April 4 (He is Risen! Alleluia!)**

Mark 16: 7

*"...But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you."*

Your first word to the disciples after the resurrection was "go and tell." The very heart of our faith is to share it. Lord, give us courage, skill, and a humble ordinariness to naturally share the good news with others. Amen.

Thank you for taking part in this specific prayer for mission in these 40 days of Lent. I invite you to continue in prayer for the mission of our congregation.

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## **PRAYER VENTURES 2021**

*These petitions are offered as guides to prayer for the global, social, and outreach ministries of the ELCA, as well as for the needs and circumstances of our neighbors, communities and world. Thank you for your continued prayers for the life and mission of this church.*

1 - As Paul said, our faith in Christ may seem like foolishness to some people but we can always trust in God's love for us through Christ because it is real, trustworthy and life-giving. Pray that God will embolden us to share our faith without hesitation or embarrassment and to invite others to believe even when doing so seems foolish.

2 - Good Friday - Remember the suffering and sacrifice of Jesus, the Son of God, for our sake and salvation. Give thanks that God looks upon us with concern, gracious love and mercy.

3 - Lift up prayers of humble gratitude that through baptism our lives are conjoined with the life, death and resurrection of Christ, which enable us to "walk in newness of life" and be "alive to God."

4 - Easter Sunday - He is risen! Praise God! Give thanks that through Jesus' resurrection we are no longer constrained by sin and death but can celebrate salvation, new life and God's wonderful grace, which reclaims and changes us.



5 - "This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it." Look around and give thanks for the people, community, world, wonders of creation and signs of God's presence and work that surround you.

6 - Arab American Heritage Month - Remember in prayer the diverse gifts, cultures, heritages and stories of our Arab and Middle Eastern siblings in Christ, who remind us of the rich history and tradition of Christ's church in the world. Ask God to bless and further the work, witness and advocacy of Arab and Middle Eastern Ministries in the ELCA and the Association of Lutherans of Arab and Middle Eastern Heritage of the ELCA.

7 - Give thanks for the generosity shared from across our church, which helps us respond to the needs of the world, live out our faith in service to our neighbors and proclaim the gospel everywhere.

8 - Jesus continues to walk with us daily and to make his loving presence known when we gather with bread and wine, remembering the sacrifices he made for our sake and for the restoration of our relationships with God. Give thanks and praise to God for being in our lives!

9 - Give thanks for the empathy and support expressed by the Rev. Martin Junge, general secretary of the Lutheran World Federation (LWF), in his letter to Presiding Bishop Elizabeth A. Eaton and our church in a time of political and social tension. "People need to talk and listen to each other again," he wrote. "Broken relationships need to be mended. People need to trust again so that they can live and work together. People need to heal from their pain and their wounds." Give thanks for the LWF, a global family who accompany one another in doing God's work in the world.

10 - Pray for the humility to acknowledge and respect God's infinite power, presence and grace for the sake of all people.

11 - Jesus is with us in times of fear and uncertainty, just as he was with his troubled disciples after the resurrection. Pray for the Spirit to encourage our faith, ground us in the good news of Christ and grant us peace, reassurance, hope and direction throughout our baptismal journey.

12 - Give thanks for signs of spring! Some places still have snow on the ground, yet others show signs of nature blossoming and new life emerging. Give thanks for the good, life-giving work of our Creator, who urges patience and stirs new life and hope in every season.

13 - Pray for Creation Justice Ministries, Lutherans Restoring Creation and other ministries, organizations and networks that deepen our awareness and knowledge of creation and the environment and equip us

to care for creation and our communities.

14 - "How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!" Pray that God will help us better understand what living together in unity requires of us as siblings in Christ and as world citizens striving for peace, justice, reconciliation and mutual care.

15 - Ask the Spirit to inspire wisdom, insight, compassion and boldness in the members of the ELCA Church Council as they gather online this week to guide and shape the work of our church in spreading the good news of Jesus Christ, serving our neighbors in need and supporting our congregations.

16 - Pray that, as we share the gospel and serve our neighbor, we will recognize the spiritual, physical and emotional needs of our siblings in Christ who are also doing God's work in the world.

17 - Pray for our ELCA missionaries serving alongside companion churches and organizations in Asia and the Pacific region, including the Rev. Phillip Baker (Cambodia), the Rev. Chandran Paul Martin and Timothy Melvyn (India), the Rev. Charles Peterson and the Rev. Jeffrey Truscott (Indonesia), Hailey Brenden (Nepal) and the Rev. Suk Yeon Lee (Jang) (South Korea).

18 - Lift up prayers of gratitude to God for the presence of the Spirit in our lives, which deepens our faith and trust in Jesus as the promised Messiah, helps us understand Scripture and moves us to respond to God's call that we bear witness to the good news of Jesus Christ.

19 - Give thanks for volunteers of all ages and gifts who serve in congregations, including teachers, assisting ministers, child care providers, committee members, greeters, singers, musicians, people who fix things and those who visit the ill or homebound. Praise God for the rich diversity of gifts, skills and passions we share in the body of Christ.

20 - The Multicultural Youth Leadership Event (MYLE) is a pre-event to the ELCA Youth Gathering. Pray for the MYLE leadership team of youth, young adults and adults planning the summer 2021 event on the theme "Made Free." Ask God to bless their work of creating a community, inclusive and accountable to all, that is inspired and woven together by the Spirit.

21 - What a joy it is to be called children of God because of God's great love for us! We may not know or understand everything about God or what lies in store for us, but we are still loved, forgiven and claimed without condition. Thank and praise God!

22 - Earth Day - Give thanks and glory to God for the blessings and mysteries of creation, entrusted to us

to sustain and enrich all generations. Pray that God will make us wise, generous and responsible stewards of nature and Earth's resources for the glory of our Creator and the well-being of our neighbor.

23 - Give thanks for our church's partnership with Lutheran World Relief to support pandemic emergency response projects in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

24 - Remember in prayer people who are confined in our jails, prisons and correctional facilities. Pray that they will be treated humanely and justly, be renewed by the good news of Jesus Christ, and find hope and strength in God's love and mercy. Pray for the Spirit to help us — as individuals and as faith communities — empathize with prisoners returning home and boldly extend our hospitality, acceptance and support as they do the difficult work of building new lives in our communities.

25 - Give thanks that Jesus is the good shepherd who knows us, loves us, unites us, leads us through life and is willing to sacrifice his life for our sake.

26 - Give thanks to God for the generosity and commitment across our church as it supports and funds global mission programs and accompanies companions in 45 countries through missionaries, companion church grants, the International Leaders Program and other programs.

27 - In this sometimes lonely world, praise God that we always have Jesus, a loving shepherd who knows us and provides us with care, guidance, renewal, comfort and courage as we face the challenges of daily life.

28 - Pray for the needs of people in your neighborhood and community, give thanks for their joys and recognize how their lives intersect with yours.

29 - Pray that the Spirit will make us courageous and articulate in sharing the good news even in the most intimidating of circumstances, just as John and Peter did while in prison.

30 - Give thanks for national and local leaders, health care workers, and volunteers who continue to fight the COVID-19 pandemic and help us recover physically, economically, spiritually and emotionally. Pray that God will help them persevere and that we will generously express our support and gratitude.

*This resource may be copied and shared among members and friends of the congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Contact [info@elca.org](mailto:info@elca.org) for additional information. Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, 8765 W. Higgins Road, Chicago, IL 60631-4101. Telephone: 800-638-3522, ext. 2458.*



## From the Deacon

As life into a “new normal” is moving forward, we’d like to have some feedback about how you’re ready to come back to church. Maybe you’re just fine with staying online. Maybe you’re fully vaccinated and can hardly wait to get back into the sanctuary. Maybe you’re somewhere in between. In any case, we’d like you to tell us where you are. You can do that by going to Survey Monkey by clicking the link below and taking our eight-question survey.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XQLPC5Q>

It’s short, it’s concise, and it will take less than three minutes of your time to complete it. If you complete it after April 2<sup>nd</sup>, you won’t be able to register for Easter Sunday drive-through communion, but everything else will still work.

If you’ve been a regular attender of our YouTube worship or Zoom Bible studies or other small group gatherings, please consider taking the survey. It’s not just for members of New Hope; it’s for everybody who is part of our community. We’re looking forward to building that community in such a way that we can serve as many people as possible moving forward.

Blessings,  
Deacon Lynn



**2020 VISION AND BEYOND**  
**LSS Southern California Estate Planning Series**

PRESENTED BY  
**Joshua Anderson**  
*Estate Planning Attorney*  
PARTNER/MCINTIRE ANDERSON

**Lisa Higginbotham**  
*Regional Gift Planner*  
ELCA FOUNDATION

**In Advance!**  
DECEMBER 16th

**I've Got the Power!**  
JANUARY 13th

**Love is Eternal...  
Community Property Isn't.**  
MARCH 17th

**Wills, Trusts & Probate...Oh My!**  
FEBRUARY 10th

**You're Set...  
What's Next?**  
APRIL 14th

**2020/2021 SERIES SCHEDULE**

For seminar details and registration please visit [lssc.org/estate-planning](https://lssc.org/estate-planning)

December 16th - Advanced Healthcare Directives	March 17th - Community Property
January 13th - Powers of Attorney	April 14th - Estate and Legacy Planning (Dual)
February 10th - Wills, Trusts and Probate...Oh My!	

\* Please note these seminars are only for general information, and do not constitute legal advice or create an attorney-client relationship.



## From Pastor Scott

### Genesis 9:8-17

<sup>8</sup> Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, <sup>9</sup> “As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, <sup>10</sup> and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark.” <sup>11</sup> I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” <sup>12</sup> God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: <sup>13</sup> I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. <sup>14</sup> When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, <sup>15</sup> I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. <sup>16</sup> When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” <sup>17</sup> God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

This story from Genesis is one of the more well-known readings as it is from the popular tale of Noah's Ark and once we learn that a rainbow is the sign of God's promise to never flood the Earth, it is quite easy to remember as there is a lot of enjoyment when seeing a rainbow in nature. This is one of the many great examples of the importance of a symbol and how it can communicate with us without saying a word. To this day we continue to use symbols not only in our faith lives, but they occur throughout different cultures and societies and sometimes even have different meanings depending on the situation.

These symbols in our life, sometimes whether we know it or not, have an effect and speak to us every time we encounter them. I recently led an activity where our confirmation group was asked to think about their sanctuary and all the different parts that make up their worship space, then to wonder what each of those things says about that space. I remember the first thing I felt was that these things that make up a space for worship do not really speak to me personally, but I ventured on and took some time contemplating the question along with everyone else. After a few minutes I realized that the parts of our sanctuaries have a lot to say, the baptismal font says that you get a fresh start, the altar says this is a table where we will share an important meal, the lectern says that the things being said here are so important that they need a special place to be said, the pews or chairs say that this is a place that is meant to be used and enjoyed with a community of people. What I quickly realized was that it was not that the pieces of the sanctuary did not speak to me, it is that I was not listening.

If we think about all the things that speak to us just in our places of worship, imagine what else is being said to us in the many other places in our lives, in our homes, at our jobs, in cities, at the beach, or in the mountains. While the rainbow is held up as a symbol of God's promise, there are so many ways that God is speaking to us every single day and if you find yourself in my situation, take a moment, take a breath, and just listen.

Blessings,

Rev. Scott Fielder





Let us remember the following people in our prayers.....

Karen Orefice is recovering from back surgery.

Continued prayers of healing for Barbara Artinian, Katie Jo Ash, Floyd Bealer, Irene Bright, Elisabeth Brown, Evelyn Colby, Matt and Sandy Cowden, Faith David, Holly Dolliver, Jill and Chris Fisher, Steve Frye, Lyla Grant, Bob Green, Sandy Hansen, Del Hultgren, Sue Koons, Diane Lawson, Joyce Lawson, Reeta Leland, Joan Looman, Elisabeth and Jorgen Makitalo, Cheryl Merrill, Kathryn Murray, Debbie Niebolt, Ava Grace O'Connell, Nick and Cindy O'Hare, Ahoo Pilehvari, Sharon Pryor, Wayne Rickert, Jane Taschereau, Rose Topliss, Jax Rains-Turk, Fred Turner, and Britt Tsumpes.

Prayers for our servicemen - Landen Anderson, Gerren Blair, Taylor Blair, Heather Brown, Keith Brown, Patrick Clohessy, Cynthia Colby, Jonah Hershman, Kyle McCarley, Ikenna Olelewe, and Jason Retter.



SCRIP gift cards are easy to give and fun to receive, but did you know that a percentage of every SCRIP gift card purchased through New Hope comes back to New Hope? Contact Kathy Rogers at [kathleen.rgrs@gmail.com](mailto:kathleen.rgrs@gmail.com) or call her at 818-889-4058 to let her know what cards you would like to purchase. You can also have a current list of the hundreds of gift cards that can be special purchased through New Hope for gift giving. Contact Kathy Rogers for more information. She will be happy to send you a current list of the cards that are available to order.



## Prayer Shawl Ministry

A prayer shawl is a knitted or crocheted shawl that can comfort and support those in need. While stitching, the maker of the shawl prays for the recipient. Prayer shawls can be made to convey blessings for a wedding, birth, Baptism, or comfort during an illness or loss. If you would like to request a prayer shawl for someone, or would like information on how you can participate in this ministry, [click here](#) to contact the church office.



## "Dear Church"

Back by popular demand - a discussion on "Dear Church" by Lenny Duncan. If you missed the first discussion or just want more, please contact Karen Ingram at [ksuingram@earthlink.net](mailto:ksuingram@earthlink.net). A date will be set that works for the group.

## Social Action Group

Our Lenten journey and book studies are inspiring members to take the next step in our call to advocate for those who can't speak for themselves. If you are interested in exploring the idea of forming a New Hope Social Action Group, please contact Karen Ingram.



Please update this change in your directory.

**Del Hultgren**

[dhultgren3@gmail.com](mailto:dhultgren3@gmail.com)



## **SUPER SPREADER THAT'S BAD! (or is it?)**

*I saw it on TV. Lots of people dancing, laughing, and cheering, unmasked in close quarters, seemingly unconcerned about Covid 19 spread. That's Bad.*

*However, spreading isn't all bad depending on what you are spreading. Some examples of good spread:*

1. *God's word to everyone.*
2. *Joy to someone hurting.*
3. *Your good fortune to the needy.*
4. *Peanut butter and Jelly on homemade bread.*

*Keep spreading the good stuff.*

*Your Friend,  
Jane Taschereau*



There were 16 walkers for the CROP Walk and we raised a total of \$1,535. Our goal was \$1,500 and we exceeded it. I am very appreciative of all the support the church members and friends have shown to our team. I trust everybody enjoyed their walk and I look forward to next year when we can walk together in person.

Fred Dunn



## MANNA FOOD PANTRY

With distribution programs, we help over 20,000 people each year throughout the 101 corridor cities from the Calabasas Grade to the Conejo Grade.

Please drop off your donations at Manna Food Bank located at:

3020 Crescent Way  
Thousand Oaks 91362

Donation Drop Off Hours -

Monday – Friday 7:30 AM – 4 PM  
Saturday 9:30 AM – 1 PM

Any questions, call Ann Ashamallah at (818)-613-6818.

### Top Priority Items

- 1 - Coffee/Tea/Hot Chocolate
- 2 - Baking Items - cookie/cake mix, flour, sugar, etc.
- 3 - Canned/Boxed gravy
- 4 - Boxed Stuffing
- 5 - Granola Bars
- 6 - Pancake Mix and Syrup
- 7 - Condiments - Ketchup/Mustard/Mayonnaise
- 8 - Mac and Cheese
- 9 - Drinks - Juices/Almond Milk/Protein Drinks, Soft Drinks
- 10 - Eggs



The daytime Book Club will meet at 11:45 AM on Zoom on Tuesday, May 4th to discuss "Ask Again, Yes" by Mary Beth Keane. Please join us if you can. The future books we are reading are....

June 1st - "The Farm" by Joanne Ramos

July 6th - "The Library Book" by Susan Orlean



## Join Our Heavenly Hiking Fellowship

For over a few months, we have been doing a morning hike every Tuesday and Saturday from 7:30 – 8:30 AM. We are calling ourselves the Heavenly Hiking Fellowship, and we are a fun, uncompetitive group of Christian hikers. Because the Conejo Valley is blessed with a number of amazing hikes with beautiful views, we go on a variety of hikes. Whether experienced or new, all are working to get in shape and maybe lose a little weight. We take rest stops to give new hikers a chance to catch up and get in shape. We hike for 45 minutes and then go back the way we came so people can get on with their day. If you would like to join us when your schedule allows, send an email to Terry Paulson ([terry@terrypaulson.com](mailto:terry@terrypaulson.com)). You'll receive a regular email update on our next hike and how to get to that trailhead. We may not be able to worship together, but we can hike together and maintain physical distance.



## Social Ministry

Hi Church Family!

I hope you are all well as we begin to see a new light for our community!

**Meals Program** - We are still providing lunches for LSS and hot meals for Harbor House with the drop off method. It is time for us to replenish our Meals Program Fund so we can continue our help to the community. Donations may be sent to the church by any of the forms on our donation page on the church website. Please indicate that your donation is for the Meals Program Fund. Checks can be sent in to the church office - please indicate on the memo line "Meals Fund." We have a very long serving, dedicated group of folks who have made and delivered lunches to LSS for many years. There are those of you who faithfully heat, portion, and deliver entrees for Harbor House whenever I ask. You are all truly the hands and feet of Jesus in action and I am so grateful for each and every one of you!

We Are New Hope!

Merylee Blair





# CSVP Volunteers Provide Income Tax Assistance

In cooperation with the Internal Revenue Service, trained and certified CSVP volunteers will provide **FREE** income tax preparation for persons in either of these categories:

- Seniors 60 years of age or older (any income level) OR
- Persons with an income of \$56,000 or less, regardless of age

## Goebel Adult Community Center

1385 East Janss Road, Thousand Oaks, CA 91362

**WE WILL BE MAKING LIMITED APPOINTMENTS BEGINNING FEBRUARY 10. THIS WILL BEGIN AS A HYBRID IN-PERSON/VIRTUAL PROGRAM. THE IN-PERSON TAX PROGRAM WILL PROCEED WHEN VENTURA COUNTY MOVES TO RED TIER. DUE TO HIGH VOLUME CALLS, PLEASE LEAVE A MESSAGE AND STAFF WILL GET BACK TO YOU AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. CALL THE CONEJO SENIOR VOLUNTEER PROGRAM OFFICE AT 805-381-2742 TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT OR FOR MORE INFORMATION.**

### PLEASE BRING THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

1. Photo identification
2. The completed (attached) 13614-C Intake/Interview form (an online fillable PDF is available at <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f13614c.pdf>) If you use the online form, you must print it and bring it with you.
3. Social Security card(s) - (this is required for all dependents and taxpayers)
4. A copy of last year's Federal and State return (unless we did your tax return last year)
5. Birth dates for you, your spouse, and any dependents on tax return
6. Wage and earning statements (W2's and 1099's); Social Security Benefits (1099-SSA) plus any pensions, annuities, and IRA/401(k) distributions (1099-R's)
7. Interest and dividend statements (1099 INT; 1099 DIV; 1099-B)
8. Unemployment Compensation (1099-G)
9. State refunds (1099-G)
10. Any cancellation of debt (1099-C)
11. Gambling Winnings (W-2G)
12. Any miscellaneous income reported on a **1099-MISC** or **1099-NEC**
13. The **Economic Incentive Payments** amounts received, last spring (\$1200/500) and this winter (\$600); these amounts are NOT taxable by either the IRS or CA, but we want to ensure you received your full amount due.
14. Health Insurance Information: (a 1095-A is required for health insurance coverage obtained through Covered California (the "marketplace"))
15. A blank or voided check-routing numbers and account numbers (deposit of refunds or direct debit of a balance due)
16. Any other relevant information about **income**, **expenses** and **deductions** (complete the deductions worksheet).
17. If there will be a college student on the tax return, a Tuition Statement – **1098-T** is required
18. Business income and expenses for Schedule C—**We ONLY do Schedule C returns, if there's a profit and expenses are Under \$35,000; without home use, inventory, or depreciation. If you are self-employed, complete the self-employment worksheet**

### We CANNOT provide Income Tax Assistance for the following:

- Rentals (Schedule E – house or room rentals)
- Out-of-state returns
- Married filing separate returns

**For more information, contact the Conejo Senior Volunteer Program at 805-381-2742 or [csvp@crpd.org](mailto:csvp@crpd.org)**



*In need of prayer?*

*We are here for you*

Contact us through our

**PRAYER WALL**

*at*

NewHopeAgoura.org



## **4** WAYS to **GIVE**

To support the work of  
New Hope Church



By Mail

Address to:  
New Hope Church  
29295 Agoura Road  
Agoura Hills, CA  
91301



Online

Secure Giving through  
our website using the  
PayPal option



Electronically

Contact the church  
office for assistance  
in setting up VANCO  
automated giving



Volunteer

*Sharing Your Time &  
Talents*


If interested in serving  
contact the church  
office for more  
information





*Stay connected...  
continue to grow...*

*Join us  
online!*

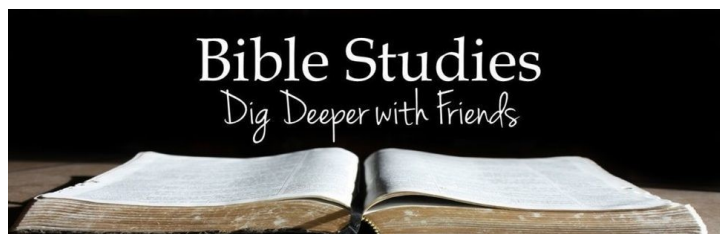
 [newhopeagoura.org](http://newhopeagoura.org)

 [newhopelutheran](https://www.facebook.com/newhopelutheran)

 [newhopeagoura](https://www.youtube.com/newhopeagoura)

 bible studies

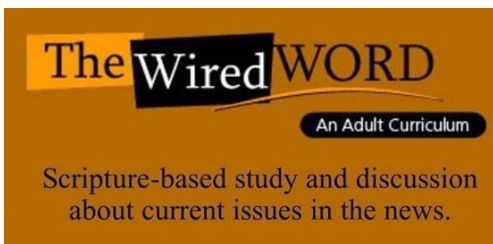
*\*See website for meeting information*



Are the continuing COVID-19 restrictions causing you to feel disconnected from your church family? Even though we can't be together in all the ways we have been accustomed, we can connect by taking advantage of technology! We would like to encourage you to check out our weekly Bible Studies held on **ZOOM**. ZOOM provides a "real-time" meeting environment where you can interact with all participants. If you would like help getting started, reach out to the church office at [newhope@newhopeagoura.com](mailto:newhope@newhopeagoura.com) or call us at 818.889.8700 and we will assist you. Don't miss this option to stay connected with your church family while deepening your relationship with Jesus.

Details for all our classes, including convenient links that will connect you to the ZOOM meetings, can be viewed on our website at: [www.newhopeagoura.org/upcoming-events](http://www.newhopeagoura.org/upcoming-events)

### Adult Study & Discussion—ONLINE



#### Sunday Mornings at 9a.m. or Sunday Evenings at 7p.m.

Join us each Sunday on ZOOM when we delve into a current event taken from the "Wired Word." If you would like to receive a preview of our weekly discussion, email Pastor Craig at [craig@newhopeagoura.com](mailto:craig@newhopeagoura.com) to be added to the mailing list.

### Women's Bible Study—ONLINE Mondays at 10 a.m.



Women of all ages are invited to attend our weekly bible study when we spend time in God's word, in prayer and in fellowship. It is a great opportunity during this time of COVID-19 restrictions, to draw closer to God and to be supported by one another.

### Tuesday Morning Bible Study—ONLINE at 10a.m.



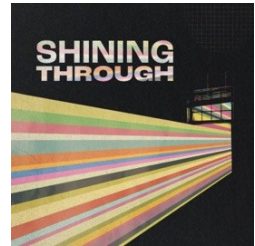
This bible study is hosted by Pastor Craig. We are currently using the study from *Gather Magazine* from the Women of the ELCA. If you would like to receive the study material each week, email Pastor Craig at [Craig@newhopeagoura.com](mailto:Craig@newhopeagoura.com)

## Men's Bible Study & Fellowship—ONLINE Thursdays at 7:30a.m.

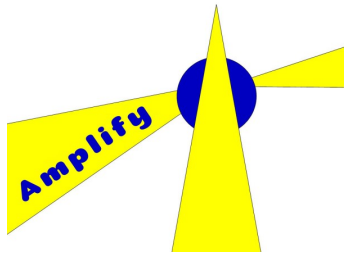


The Men of New Hope gather each week for stimulating conversations about current issues involving life and faith. They are currently in a study entitled "Shining Through" featuring Rev. Andy Stanley from North Point Community Church near Atlanta, Georgia.

Join us. All Are Welcome



## Programs for our Youth



**Amplify** is a Sunday School program designed for children ages 4 years through 4th grade. Join us each Sunday morning on ZOOM at 9:30a.m.

Contact Merylee for **ZOOM** access information



**Confirmation** continues to meet as a middle school youth group with activities planned each week on ZOOM including: art projects, cookie baking, games, prayer, and good conversation.

Contact Pastor Scott or Pastor Craig for **ZOOM** access information

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Did you miss last week's service?  
Is there a service you wish you could experience again?

## NEW HOPE WORSHIP



All our recorded services are available to view on our website. To browse our library, go to the **WORSHIP** menu on our homepage at [NewHopeAgoura.org](http://NewHopeAgoura.org)



## April Birthdays

- 2 Lorie Paulson
- 7 Lyndsey Blair
- 9 Fred Dunn
- 15 Brent Blair
- Sue Koons
- 21 Cindy O'Hare
- 23 Linda Barry
- 25 Sue Poulson
- 26 Sarah Olelewe
- 28 Steve Frye



## Support Our Military

Please continue to collect personal care items and treats to support our troops. Travel size products such as soaps, shampoo, razors, lotions, deodorants, etc. are especially appreciated. Hard candies, lifesavers, and breath mints make refreshing treats to share too. Contact the church office at 818-889-8700 or by email to [laurie@newhopeagoura.com](mailto:laurie@newhopeagoura.com) to make arrangements for drop off.

*The deadline for all articles for the May newsletter is April 25th. Be sure to email them to [gsmcginnis@roadrunner.com](mailto:gsmcginnis@roadrunner.com).*



## Disaster Preparedness

As we enter into the fire season, now more than ever is a good time to review the Disaster Preparedness resources that have been compiled by your Church Council and posted to our website. <http://www.newhopeagoura.org/disaster-plan/>

"The question isn't who  
is going to let me;  
it's who is going  
to stop me."

- Ayar Rand

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